

LOUISVILLE METRO COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Public Safety Committee

Monday, November 12, 2007

5:07 P.M.

Third Floor, City Hall

Present:

Chairman: CM Kramer

Members: CM Flood (left at 5:30), CM Peden, CM Downard, CM Green and CM Woolridge
CM Shanklin (Excused)
CM Tandy, CM Welch, CM Blackwell, CM Unseld

Absent:

Also Present:

Special Items for Discussion: NONE

Chairman Kramer announced the members and non-members of the committee that were present. A quorum was established.

Pending Legislation

[O-226-09-07 \(S\) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND RE-ENACTING LOUISVILLE METRO CODE OF ORDINANCES \(LMCO\) SECTIONS 115.060 – 115.063 REGARDING FIREWORKS AND BALLOONS.](#)

Status: In Committee – Tabled

Committee: Public Safety

Primary Sponsor:

Rick Blackwell

Kelly Downard

Kevin Kramer

Motion to Untable was made by James Peden and seconded by Judy Green.

Discussion: CM Kramer stated that both the urban and suburban fire departments had suggested that the council may want to let this sunset. CM Downard stated that the preference would be to rescind it.

Motion to amend by repealing the ordinance made by James Peden and seconded by Mary Woolridge.

By unanimous vote the amendment passed.

VOTING RESULTS: For: 6; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1

For: Judy Green, Kelly Downard, Kevin Kramer, James Peden, Mary C. Woolridge, Madonna Flood

Against: (None)

Abstain: (None)

Absent: Barbara Shanklin

This item as amended version was sent to the **Old Business**.

VOTING RESULTS: For: 6; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1

For: Judy Green, Kelly Downard, Kevin Kramer, James Peden, Mary C. Woolridge, Madonna Flood

Against: (None)

Abstain: (None)

Absent: Barbara Shanklin

[O-229-09-07 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND RE-ENACTING SUBSECTION 132.03\(A\)\(19\) OF THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT \("LMCO"\) CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATING TO PANHANDLING.](#)

Status: In Committee - Held

Committee: Public Safety

Primary Sponsor:

David Tandy

George Unseld

Motion to Approve was made by Judy Green and seconded by Mary Woolridge.

Discussion: The following people spoke to this ordinance:

- CM Tandy
- CM Unseld
- Barry Alberts, Downtown Development Corporation
- Robbie Brannon, The Healing Place
- Marlene Gordon, Louisville Coalition for the Homeless
- Jim Wood, Convention and Visitors Bureau

The following was discussed:

- Amendment to the current ordinance which outlaws any panhandling
- More clearly defines type of solicitation that is illegal
- Raised level of consciousness of the homeless
- Targets those who abuse the generosity of those in the community
- Not designed for just Downtown
- Strikes an appropriate balance
- Task force met to discuss and recommend changes
- Targets professional panhandlers as opposed to those who are truly homeless
- Number of panhandlers is growing
- Goal is to make it clear that panhandling is to be done in a respectful manner
- Everyone has to find their own means of survival
- Utilize existing resources and laws
- Public education
- Other cities response to panhandling
 - Old parking meters as donation centers in Denver
 - Panhandling court in Memphis
- Panhandling cards created by The Coalition for the Homeless
 - List of places to volunteer and donate
 - Where to get assistance
- Convention delegates surveyed
 - Realized that public safety was issue, especially panhandling at hotels

- Curtail aggressive panhandling and those who ask for large amounts of money
- Penalty
 - Seems excessive
 - Makes panhandling a class B misdemeanor, which is the lowest in the state, and allows the police to take person into custody
 - Maximum that a judge can impose, but does not have to impose maximum
- Downtown statistics on panhandling
 - Statistics kept by Downtown Management District
 - 2006: 829 instances, 82 were aggressive
 - 2007: 736 instances through September, 82 were aggressive
- Advocate in the judicial system
- Comparison to the curfew law

CW Woolridge stated that she would like for LMPD to come before the committee to discuss the ordinance and would like more time to discuss the ordinance. CM Downard stated he, like CM Unseld, would like to hear from some of those in the audience.

Motion to Table made by Mary Woolridge. CM Peden objected to the motion.

By voice vote the objection was overruled and the item was **Tabled**.

VOTING RESULTS: For: 5; Against: 1; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1

For: Judy Green, Kelly Downard, Kevin Kramer, Mary C. Woolridge, Madonna Flood

Against: James Peden

Abstain: (None)

Absent: Barbara Shanklin

[O-121-05-07 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 91.072 OF THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT CODE OF ORDINANCES \("CODE"\) PERTAINING TO THE QUARANTINE OF ANIMALS.](#)

Status: In Committee - Tabled

Committee: Public Safety

Primary Sponsor: Glen Stuckel

Discussion: This item remained **Tabled**.

Motion to Adjourn was made by Mary Woolridge.

Without objection the meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

***NOTE: Items sent to the Consent Calendar or Old Business will be heard before the full Council at the Metro Council Meeting November 20, 2007.**

jht